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HOUSE BILL 1778

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State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2007 Regular Session

By Representatives Wallace, Dunn, Kenney, Haigh, Hasegawa, B. Sullivan, Darneille, McDermott, Takko, Roberts, Schual-Berke and Santos

Read first time 01/26/2007. Referred to Committee on Education.

1            AN ACT Relating to modernizing Washington state history and  
2 government course requirements for high school graduation; adding a new  
3 section to chapter 28A.230 RCW; and creating a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** The study of the state's history and  
6 government is vital to providing a well-rounded education to students.  
7 It is important for students to have a firm understanding of where we  
8 have come from as a state and the institutions that guide and serve  
9 citizens of the state. It is equally important to provide students  
10 with context for the information that enables them to apply it to the  
11 present and future, with an understanding of Washington's place in our  
12 country and the broader global community.

13            The legislature finds that the current high school graduation  
14 requirements for coursework in Washington state history and government  
15 have become outdated and lack relevancy. It is therefore the intent of  
16 the legislature to modernize high school graduation requirements for  
17 coursework in Washington state history and government.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    A new section is added to chapter 28A.230  
2    RCW to read as follows:

3        (1) Beginning with students entering the ninth grade in the 2008-09  
4    school year, the high school graduation requirements established by the  
5    state board of education pursuant to RCW 28A.230.090 shall include a  
6    course that covers Washington state and the global economy.    The  
7    content of the course shall include, but not be limited to:

- 8        (a) Washington state history and culture;
- 9        (b) The Constitution of the state of Washington and Washington  
10    state politics;
- 11       (c) Washington state geography; and
- 12       (d) Commerce in Washington state and its place in a global economy.

13       (2) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall  
14    develop a curriculum that is consistent with the requirements of this  
15    section and that meets the requirements for the office of the  
16    superintendent of public instruction's classroom-based assessments.  
17    The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall make the  
18    curriculum available for voluntary use by school districts beginning  
19    with the 2008-09 school year.

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